

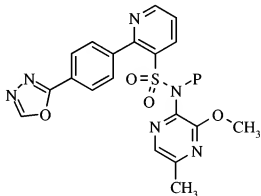
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claim

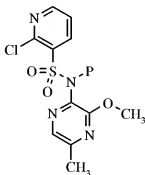
Claims 1-7. (cancelled)

8. (withdrawn) A process for preparing compounds of Formula IV:



(IV)

which comprises coupling [4-(1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenyl]boronic acid with a compound of Formula III:



(III)

wherein P is a nitrogen-protecting group.

9. (withdrawn) The process according to claim 8 which takes place in the presence of

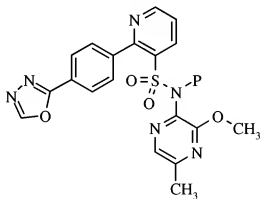
- (i) a source of palladium (0) selected from PdCl₂, Pd(Ph₃P)₄ or Pd(OAc)₂;
- (ii) a suitable ligand selected from triphenylphosphine or 3,3',3''-phosphinidyne tris(benzenesulphonic acid) trisodium salt;

- (iii) a base selected from triethylamine, benzyldimethylamine, N-methylmorpholine, N-methylpiperidine, triethanolamine, ethyldiethanolamine, diisopropylethylamine, potassium acetate, cesium fluoride or potassium fluoride.

10. (cancelled)

11. (withdrawn) The process according to claim 8 wherein P is isobutoxycarbonyl.

12. (currently amended) A compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

wherein P is an acyl group, an aroyl group, a C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl group or an arylmethoxycarbonyl group~~a nitrogen-protecting group.~~

13. (previously presented) A compound of Formula IV as claimed in claim 12 which is N-(isobutoxycarbonyl) N-(3-methoxy-5-methylpyrazin-2-yl)-2-(4-[1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl]phenyl) pyridine-3-sulphonamide.

Claims 14-17. (cancelled)

18. (new) A compound of Formula IV as claimed in claim 12 wherein P is a C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl group.

19. (new) A compound of Formula IV as claimed in claim 18 which is N-(isobutoxycarbonyl) N-(3-methoxy-5-methylpyrazin-2-yl)-2-(4-[1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl]phenyl) pyridine-3-sulphonamide.